

The Wheeling Intelligencer.

VOLUME XLV--NUMBER 283.

WHEELING, W. VA., MONDAY, JULY 19, 1897.

PRICE TWO CENTS. — [ON TRAINS FIVE CENTS.]

MAY BE DELAYED.

Tariff Conference Report May Not be Sent In

TO CONGRESS UNTIL TUESDAY.

A Number of Odds and Ends to be Gathered Up

BEFORE REPORT IS COMPLETE.

After its Reception Short Work will be Made of the Bill—Several Opponents of the Protection Principle Will Talk Through Their Hats for Campaign Effect, but Their Efforts will be Brief. Victory of the House Sugar Schedule a Triumph for Speaker Reed and the Republican Party—Congress will Soon Adjourn.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 18.—Despite preparations made yesterday and to-day for the attendance of members of both house of Congress to-morrow, and notwithstanding the apparent confidence that the conference report on the tariff bill will be ready for presentation during the day, there is a reasonable doubt of its being handed in before Tuesday. It is said this evening that there are odds and ends yet to be gathered up, the collection of which may work delay. Yet, it is possible the report will reach both houses to-morrow, and there is no doubt that after its reception short work will be made of the bill. There will be several speeches by opponents of the measure for campaign effect, but they will be brief.

Speaking of the aftermath, no speech-making is likely to offset the influence of Speaker Reed's bold stand in behalf of the house schedule on sugar. He backed the house conferees, and the house and the country backed him in a contention, which the Republican party can endorse, and which but few will have the temerity to criticize either for the rate imposed or for any possible delay in the legislation which was lately so much discussed.

Notice has been served on senators and representatives to be in their seats to-morrow. All are anxious for adjournment, and the end of the special session seems to be very near. Had the senate been under control of the Republicans the tariff bill would have been enacted into law weeks ago.

CONFERENCE REPORT

On Tariff Bill will be Voted on Before Tuesday Night.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 18.—The indications to-night are that the tariff bill, as agreed to by the Republican conferees yesterday, probably will have passed both houses of Congress and be a law at the end of the present week. Delays and complications, now unanticipated, might somewhat prolong the final struggle. The Republican conferees have been working hard all day, consulting and arranging the details of the report which they now believe they will be able to submit to their Democratic colleagues to-morrow morning. The bulk of this work has fallen upon the shoulders of Senator Allison and Governor Dingley, who are preparing the statements of the effects of the changes made by the conferees which will be submitted to their respective houses. They have had a small army of clerks at work throughout the day in the room of the senate committee on finance, preparing the bill for the printer. If this task can be accomplished to-night, so that the printed bill can be laid before the Democrats to-morrow morning, the debate will begin in the house to-morrow afternoon.

It is not believed that there will be any disposition on the part of the Democratic members of the conference to delay the bill in full committee, but the Democrats have had no meeting to determine their course of action on this point. Governor Dingley expressed the opinion to-night that an hour would be sufficient time in which to explain the changes made by the conferees to their minority colleagues on the committee.

One or two of the Democrats are to-night inclined to insist upon a day for deliberation on the changes, but they, of course, realize that they are helpless if the majority desire to report the bill over their protest, and inasmuch as the Republican leaders have decided to-night to give two full days for the discussion of the report in the house they probably will acquiesce in the decision of the majority to make the report to-morrow. The report must, of course, be acted upon by the house before it is considered in the senate. The committee on the rules will meet to-morrow and prepare a rule which will bring a vote on the report before adjournment on Tuesday. The rule will be presented and adopted as soon as the conferees make their report, probably soon after noon to-morrow. The debate will immediately follow. The South Carolina dispensary bill will be used to consume time until the report is brought in. It is not believed that a single Republican vote in the house will be recorded against the report.

The programme in the senate is much more indefinite on account of the wide latitude allowed for debate and the absence of any parliamentary method of bringing the report to a vote. The Democratic senators, it is safe to presume, from their talk to-day, intend to assail the compromise on sugar, to which the conferees agreed and to make a pretty stiff fight against the restoration of the dutiable list of cotton baling, cotton ties, burlaps, etc., which they succeeded, with the aid of the Populists, and one or two Republicans, in placing on the free list. They will also make strong opposition to the restoration of white pine to the house rate of \$2 per thousand. The most prominent of the Democratic senators freely express the opinion that the fight in the senate, though it may be spirited, will be brief. They believe a vote will be reached within three days in the senate.

Senator Allison and Representative Dingley were engaged up to midnight in the preparation of the report which is to accompany the bill when it is presented to the respective houses. After the meeting Mr. Dingley authorized the statement that the measure would be submitted to the full conference committee tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock for final action. He confidently believes that the whole committee will

complete its work by mid-day and that the conference report will be submitted to the house at noon.

POSTMASTERS AND PENSIONERS

The Mannington Selection was Hastened by Resignation of Incumbent. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 18.—Representative Dovenor has recommended the appointments of fourth class postmasters as follows: R. M. Messenger, Baldwin, Gilmer county; C. P. Norman, Venus, Gilmer county; Luther Billeter, Rosby's Rock, Marshall county; Cora Jones, Nandala, Lewis county; H. R. Stansberry, Colliers, Brooke county; J. C. Cooper, Little, Tyler county; J. H. Shimer, Holliday's Cove, Hancock county; Benjamin Cochran, Blanche, Hancock county; Adolphus A. Davis, Nina, Doddridge county.

Representative Dayton has also made recommendations for appointments of postmasters as follows: John O. Huey, Mannington, Marion county; R. E. L. Breedlove, Horse Shoe Run, Preston county; L. Oiler, Sir John's Run, Morgan county; Sallie E. Martin, Amos, Marion county.

The decision in the Mannington case was expedited by the resignation of the incumbent. The department requested the suggestion of a successor in order that the vacancy might be filled, and Mr. Dayton could only delay long enough to have the papers sent to him. There were three principal contestants pretty evenly matched. Some of the patrons and some members of the county Republican committee, endorsed more than one of the three, but the successful man was supported by the chairman of the county committee, and the member of the congressional committee for the county, and this was backed, Mr. Dayton says, by what appeared to him to be the largest petition of the patrons.

Three West Virginia postmasters were commissioned yesterday. C. H. Hanna, at Frankfort, Greenbrier county; J. S. Stealey, Palatine, and J. J. Strother, at Wilsonburg, W. G. Staggs was commissioned for the office at Holloway, Belmont county, O.

Pension certificates have been forwarded to the following West Virginia applicants:

Restoration and Increase—William F. Metz, Petroleum.

Renew and Increase—Isaac Comer, Legg.

Increase—Jesse Burch, Moundsville; James H. Barker, Charleston.

Widow—By special act, Sophronia Meeks, Parkersburg.

WEST VIRGINIA MATTERS

Measures Introduced by Congressmen Dovenor and Dorr—Personal Mention. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 18.—Representative Dorr has introduced a bill in the house to prohibit the sale of convict made goods, unless they be labelled as such, which measure was referred to the committee on the judiciary.

Representative Dovenor has introduced a resolution to provide for the employment of Alfred C. Davis, assistant index clerk, for the period of three months subsequent to adjournment of the house.

E. H. Fitch, of Huntington, just appointed special attorney under the department of justice, has been assigned to field work, his first work being in North Dakota. He is now receiving instruction in the cases which he will have to consider, but will within a few days start for the northwest, stopping for a brief stay at his home while en route. The salary attached to his position is \$2,400 annually, and there is an allowance for expenses.

Among recent changes in office here, are the transfer of Haze Morgan, of Morgan county, West Virginia, from the patent office to the postoffice department, at an advance in salary, and the promotion of J. William De Grauge, of Martinsburg to the \$1,400 grade in the war department.

Dr. Will Hart, son of Captain J. E. Hart, former resident and still a citizen of New Martinsville, has been made resident physician at the eastern dispensary, a branch of the Emergency hospital under the control of the district government. Dr. Hart graduated in medicine and surgery from an institution here, and his selection to the position named followed. It is a mark of confidence which he and his friends greatly appreciate.

MONEY QUESTION.

Attitude of Europe Toward Bi-metallic International Conference.

NEW YORK, July 18.—Perry Belmont who returned from Europe on Saturday in a carefully prepared interview which he gave out for publication to-day had this to say on the money question:

"In regard to the present attitude of Europe toward international bi-metallic there are advocates of it in France, England and Germany as there was a year ago, but the advocacy has not increased in volume or intensity. Neither France nor Germany will unite with us placing gold and silver on a partly unless England leads the way. The continued increase in gold production, the surplus last year and this year of British income over expenditures, the continued supremacy of England in commerce and of London as an international money centre have the effect of persuading parliament that the present coinage, currency and financial system is good, even though there is distress in India. Reduction of taxation with an enlargement of its basis there may be, if peace continues, but probably not a modification of coinage or currency laws so long as existing British industrial prosperity endures.

"The McKinley administration is actively endeavoring, as the Republican platform of 1896 requires, to promote the free coinage of silver by international agreement. Its ambassadors and special commissioners are working in concert, under the law enacted by the last Congress which Cleveland approved. The question of the ratio to be adopted is kept in abeyance. There is every prospect of an international conference to be held within a short time and probably to assemble in Paris.

"European bi-metallicists believe, that if, in the failure of international bi-metallic, we shall open our mints to silver on the ratio of 16, and subsequently Europe opens hers on the ratio of 15, then all our gold will leave us, as it did after 1834, and only token silver coins would remain."

Railroads Washed Out.

CORRY, Pa., July 18.—The storm of last night, to-day and to-night is doing terrible damage hereabouts. The whole line of the Erie is washed out between Union and Venango. Through trains are being run via Oil City, connecting with the main line here. The loss in this section will be heavy.

TROUBLE AHEAD.

Pangs of Hunger and Mutterings of Discontent Take Shape,

AND THE MINERS WILL MARCH

On the Boone and Allison Mines in the Canonsburg District.

MANY ADDITIONAL DEPUTIES

Have Been Sworn In, and they are Well Armed for Any Friction that May Take Place—1,000 Starving Men in the Line. They Conjecture that Their Demonstration will Awe the Working Miners into Throwing Down Their Picks—Meeting of Miners Near Monongah—Men are Wavering, and Operators are Prepared for a Strike—Situation at Other Points.

PITTSBURGH, July 18.—The events of to-day in the Pittsburgh coal mining district indicate that there is trouble ahead. The strike has been on for two weeks with no cause for alarm in any quarter, but to-day the pangs of hunger and mutterings of discontent have taken tangible form, and before morning 1,000 miners will have marched on Canonsburg, the objective point being the Boone and Allison mines. A few days ago the operators of these mines made a requisition on the sheriff of Washington county for additional deputies. It is supposed that there are at least thirty deputies at each mine, well armed for any friction that may take place.

To-day the miners of the Miller's and Tom's Run districts held a mass meeting. The men employed in the Slope and Bridgeville mines and Essen's No. 1 and 2, and Steen's mines met at Bridgeville. Cecil was the scene of a meeting of Laurel Hill No. 2 and 4, Creedmoor and Bishop mines and the diggers employed in the Standard and Ellsworth mines in Miller's run also held a meeting. The gatherings were attended by men, women and children. The women did not lag in the interest taken. Many of them openly branded their husbands as cowards. They argued that they might as well fight as starve. The men said the victory could be won providing every coal miner employed in these sections where the lake trade is supplied would join the general movement of idleness.

To March on Canonsburg.

Plans for bringing out the miners at work in the Boone and Allison mines were discussed. Special committees were sent from one meeting to the other. It was decided to march on Canonsburg mines to-night. The Reising brass band and the Cecil drum corps were engaged and the march across the country is on. The procession will be made up of three divisions from the different meetings. They will mobilize at Bridgeville and take up the tramp of twelve miles across the country. A miner who was very enthusiastic over the plan said there would be at least 1,000 men in line. It was learned late to-night that the scheme has been in process of formation for several days. It was talked of several days ago and got to the ears of the operators of the Canonsburg mines, hence their decision to increase their force of deputies. Whether the miners will go armed is not known as yet, but they expect to be at the mines when the offending diggers are ready to go to work, and will use every influence possible to keep them from going into the mines. Some of the most conservative of the leaders claim that there will be no bloodshed. They say that when the colliers see such a big demonstration in favor of what they term a peaceful battle for bread, they cannot enter the mines and retain their manhood. Every effort was made to keep the movement a secret for fear the force of deputies at the mines would be further increased. Just what the result will be it is difficult at this hour to tell. The men are known to be in a condition of semi-insanity on the strike question. They have been goaded on by suffering wives, daughters and sweethearts and it appears as if it is the beginning of the end of the strike.

Arbitration Negotiations.

The negotiations to induce the coal operators of this district to sign a uniformity agreement are still going on. The commissioners having it in charge feel as if they would be able to accomplish it. Secretary G. Frank Schmidt said to-night that the prospects were brighter than they have been since the negotiations began. He said that within the next few days powerful and potent influences would be brought to bear on the operators and with the strike in the present condition, the indications were for a successful consummation of the agreement.

As an evidence that the operators are not counting on arbitration, it was announced to-night by a prominent operator that if the strike in West Virginia does not prove successful the Pittsburgh operators will make an effort early next week to start their mines at the 60-cent rate, the rate now asked by the strikers. They will claim that as they are willing to pay the price asked the law must protect them in the operation of their mines.

STRIKE SITUATION

Summed Up by President Ratchford, of United Mine Workers' Union.

COLUMBUS, O., July 18.—President Ratchford to-day summed up the strike situation in an interview to the State Journal as follows: "The manner in which the miners are conducting themselves commends itself to the country and gives their opponents renewed encouragement and strengthens the belief that victory will crown their efforts. The history of industrial strife here is no parallel to the present movement. Deputy marshals, coal and iron police and secret detectives have been at work, but their presence has failed to incite the miners to acts of lawlessness or even to a resumption of work. Their presence in peaceable communities with a chip on their shoulder gave cause for alarm, and ordinarily would have caused a resort to violence. But our miners in this instance protesting by the exercise of their right, would neither cause trouble themselves nor allow themselves to become involved in trouble by the action of others.

"Reports from some of the cities to the effect that coal supply is not short are only intended to discourage the miners. If the coal supply is not short why are prices advancing? Why is coal worth a dollar a ton and even a dollar and a half more than it was two weeks ago.

"We have started into this movement realizing fully the importance of the

work before us, and the responsibility resting upon us, and after two weeks of suspension, involving more than 120,000 miners, we are well satisfied with the results. Only those who are best acquainted with the condition of the miners have any idea of the extent of this suspension and its paralyzing effects upon labor and business of the country. The coming week will add 20,000 men to the idle column. The week following will bring greater accessions to our ranks. The movement will continue to grow not only from the point of number involved, but public opinion will become crystallized more fully and through the press of the country will demand a solution of this great difficulty. Our demand for living wages and the determination of the miners to secure it, have brought expressions of sympathy and moral and material support from almost every branch of organized labor whose efforts in our behalf will endeavor them to all lovers of fairness and establish for the miners, with their own efforts, a living rate of wages."

AWAITING ACTION

Of the Fairmont Miners—If They Strike the Rest will Follow. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

GRAFTON, W. Va., July 18.—Your correspondent in reviewing the mining situation throughout the eastern part of the state to-day learns that though an unusual amount of interest has been manifested among the miners in the last two or three days as to the outcome of the strike, no excitement has been felt, and the miners in general have believed all along there would be no strike. The failure of the great labor leaders to appear Fairmont, Saturday, was a general disappointment among the miners everywhere, as many men from this part of the state went there to attend the great mass meeting which was advertised.

At the Davis Coal and Coke Company's mines along the West Virginia Central road, everything is quiet and the company is employing new men every day, and there is still a great demand for empty cars.

At Cornith, Austin and the West End everything is quiet and the men are working full time. About one hundred miners are employed at Tunnelton and all the coal dug is used to supply freight engines on the Baltimore & Ohio road, and none is shipped.

Everything is quiet at this point, but the men say they are waiting the action of the miners in the Fairmont regions, and if they strike every man can be induced to come out if necessary to help the others to victory, and the same applies to all miners throughout the eastern part of West Virginia.

MINERS' MEETING

Near Monongah—Men Wavering, and Operators Expect a Strike.

FAIRMONT, W. Va., July 18.—Over 500 men attended the coal miners' meeting to-day in the woods at Willow Tree school house near Monongah and 317 of them raised their hands when J. D. Mahon, the speaker, took a vote to ascertain how many of them were willing to come out in the morning. The miners were chilly at first, but got warmed up and showed much enthusiasm, and the speaker was frequently cheered. It was a noticeable fact that only Monongah miners were in attendance, none from the neighboring collieries putting in their appearance. Notwithstanding the rain, which commenced falling soon after the meeting began, the miners listened for over an hour to the address.

It was the largest meeting that was ever held in this district by miners and many of the operators who have been confident that the men would stay in say now that they are prepared for anything. Not only the miners but their wives and children turned out to the meeting. Conservative men here think it is only a matter of time until the men come out, but no important actions are expected until Debs speaks here to-morrow night. The company says that if the men strike, the pits will be filled with Italians and negroes, and if this action is taken the men say trouble may be expected. It is said an impromptu arsenal has been arranged in the company's office and the worst is expected.

TROUBLE APPREHENDED

Along the Norfolk & Western—Guards at All Points.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER. WELCH, W. Va., July 18.—There has been a change in the strike affairs of the Pocahontas Flat Top coal field. Strike agitators have been busy for a few days past and have succeeded in a measure. The miners at Shamokin, Elkhorn, and Barlow have gone out and others will follow.

The men throughout the field are peaceful, but trouble is likely to happen at any time. The Norfolk & Western has placed guards at all the bridges and tunnels in the field and in some places called on the authorities to protect their property.

FLAT TOP REGION.

Agitators are at Work—Some Miners Reconsider Their Intention to Strike.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., July 18.—The strike agitators have been busy in the Flat Top fields to-day, but have made but little headway. Not over 500 men will quit work there this morning, and this number may be reduced one-half. All the miners in the Thacker coal fields yesterday afternoon voted to quit work to-morrow morning, held a mass meeting this afternoon and reconsidered matters and they will all return to work as usual to-morrow morning. It is believed that the miners at Dingles will also change their action of yesterday and will return also. The operators at Elkhorn are working diligently among their men and they have hopes of persuading them to return to-morrow. If they do it will be almost impossible for strike agitators to induce miners in the Flat Top fields to quit work. The situation on the Kanawha remains very much the same as yesterday.

No Strike in Piedmont District.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER. PIEDMONT, W. Va., July 18.—There is no change in the situation here. All the mines are working their full capacity, some of them day and night. A few agitators are reported in this section, but so far their efforts are fruitless. No one here believes there will be a strike in this section.

In Kanawha Valley.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., July 18.—A conference of the strike agitators, Fred Dlicher and W. H. Haskins, of Ohio, was held at East Bank to-day, with local leaders. It was decided to hold a series of meetings at different points in the Kanawha valley this week. The first of these meetings will be held at

Montgomery to-morrow and it will be addressed by Dlicher, Haskins and others. Debs is expected here by Wednesday.

HOT WORDS FROM COL. REND.

He Denounces De Armit, and Calls Him an Artful Dodger.

CHICAGO, July 18.—"De Armit's plan to end the strike among the coal miners will fail because no one has faith in it besides himself and the commissioners whose credulity he has imposed upon. Some other way of settling the strike will doubtless be devised and attempted in the near future. As to myself, I intend to go away next week to confer with operators and labor leaders with regard to ending this strike by other than such hypocritical means."

Col. W. P. Rend had just finished a savage denunciation of W. P. De Armit when he prophesied the failure of the eastern man's "true uniformity" plan, which the Chicago coal operator refused to sign when waited upon by the state commissioners of labor yesterday.

"The promises of peace held out by certain of the state commissioners are based merely on the plausible professions of De Armit," said Col. Rend, plying excitedly to and fro in his office. "It seems that certain of these gentlemen must have been hypnotized by this artful dodger. I judge they have been taken to the Duquesne club in Pittsburgh and wine and dined and filled with his fictions. His plan of peace is a delusion, designed to humbug the opinion of the public. It is a snare craftily contrived to entice and entangle the other operators into a false position. This self-constituted reformer is a reformer for 10 cents a ton. He says he is in favor of abolishing company stores and is the champion of honest weights and true uniformity. Those of us who know him believe him to be a Pharisee in every thing except that the Pharisee claimed. I believe that he was exempt from the sin of the oppression of the poor. The plain facts are that De Armit got an advantage over his fellow operators and is trying to maintain it by falsehood and calumny. Every large operator in Pittsburgh is as much in favor of honest methods as is De Armit. I say deliberately that his methods are those of a moral knave, who would rob others of their good name in order that he might be able to defend the just accusations against his own.

"Seventy per cent of the operators, controlling 90 per cent of the coal produced in the Pittsburgh district, willingly signed the very agreement that De Armit now puts forth as his ultimatum. In order to deceive the public he puts forth his plan for uniformity, but at the same time attaches a condition that he knows in advance will defeat the very object he ostensibly pretends to further.

"What language is too severe for the man who caused the strike of 1894 and is now the cause of a conflict in which 150,000 miners are made idle and from which the business interests of several states suffer such vast injury? Harsh as my language may seem it is only that of the nearly every operator and miner in the land."

Will Help Miners.

CHICAGO, July 18.—All unions affiliated with the Chicago Federation of Labor, will contribute to the miners' relief fund. At a meeting of the Federation this afternoon, W. P. DeArmitt and his plan of true uniformity were severely condemned.

Ex-Priest Silenced.

VICTORIA, B. C., July 18.—The Roman Catholics of this city have taken determined steps to prevent Michael Ruthven, who claims to be an ex-priest, from repeating a series of lectures which he delivered two weeks ago. When Ruthven was here before he got a little notoriety through letters he wrote to the papers. He returned this week and advertised three lectures on Sunday and Monday. The Catholics had him arrested for criminally libeling Rev. Rev. Father Nicolay, of this city, by publishing a pamphlet which contained the statement that all Catholic priests were immoral. He is also charged with inciting a breach of the peace by issuing his circulars calling meetings. Ruthven was committed for trial on the charge of criminal libel and bound over to keep the peace.

Watches Himself Die.

DIAMONDHEAD, Mich., July 18.—Dr. Tyler Hull died this morning in a peculiar manner from blood poisoning. He struck his shin bone against a basket of potatoes ten days ago. Eczema set in and the leg swelled up. He knew that he was going to die, and insisted on having a big mirror placed at the foot of his bed so that he could watch the progress of the disease. He weighed two hundred and seventy pounds. He was born in Geauga county, Ohio, October 10, 1849, and graduated from the Detroit Medical and Surgical College in 1871. In 1822 he got a diploma at the Rush Medical College. He also studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1893. He was a Mason and Maccabee.

Heavy Storm Strikes Pittsburgh.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., July 18.—A heavy thunder and lightning storm struck this city at about 6 o'clock this evening and within an hour a rainfall of 73 inches had been precipitated. The lightning was unusually sharp and made strikes within the city doing considerable damage, but no lives were lost. Among the buildings struck were the Thirty-second ward school house and the fifteen story Park building on the corner of Fifth avenue and Smithfield street. A large piece of cornice was thrown to the street and smashed into a thousand pieces, but on account of the heavy rain, the crowd of people usually passing that point were under shelter and no one was hurt.

Destructive Forest Fires.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 18.—Forest and field fires are doing much damage in various parts of this state. Near the town of Red Bluff about a dozen residences have been burned, cattle ranges destroyed and standing crops are threatened. The loss is already over \$100,000. The hills near the town of Kenwood are in flames and many farms are in danger. In the vicinity of Mount Diablo, fire is laying waste the fields and the mountain houses are threatened.

Wakened Up the Volcano.

ROME, July 18.—A violent earthquake occurred in the island of Stromboli, one of the Lipari group, off the north coast of Sicily, on Saturday. The shock was followed by an active eruption of the volcano of Stromboli.

Movements of Steamships.

HAVRE—La Bretagne, New York. LIVERPOOL—Cufie and Etruria, New York. NEW YORK—Arrived: La Gascogne, Havre; Aurania, Liverpool.

PAN AMERICANS

Hold a "Conversation" on Tariff and Free Trade

AT THE COMMERCIAL MUSEUM

In Philadelphia—Meeting was of a Parliamentary Character.

RECIPROCITY WAS DISCUSSED.

The Most Pronounced Free Trader in the Party Pays a Delicate Compliment to the Warm Hospitality of the Country, but is Very Shy on the Present Tariff Bill—A Costa Rican Member of the Delegation, However, Comes Out Boldly for the Protection Principles Advocated by the Republican Party.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., July 18.—The commercial representatives of Mexico, Central and South America, who last night returned from their forty days' tour of the industrial centres of the country, assembled to-day at the commercial museum and held a symposium on the subject of reciprocity. The meeting was of a parliamentary nature and a number of speeches were made, several of the delegates expressing decided views on the tariff question. A general discussion of the subject followed.

Dr. Gustav Nelderlein, scientific director of the museum, presided. By way of introduction, he said: "The United States congress is now passing a tariff bill and in the amendments a special power is given to the President to lower the tariff quotation 20 per cent for each article which can be included in treaties of reciprocity. The question of reciprocity is the most difficult in the world's economy and our institution has been established with the aim to come nearer the solution of this great problem. Our Congress is a part of this work, necessary to see clearer in the world's production and consumption. We limited ourselves this time to America as the part of the world which not only, historically, and geographically should be considered as one, but which also commercially and economically have common interests."

A Free Trader's Views.

The most pronounced free trader of the party, Arthur S. H. Hitchings, of Rio de Janeiro, had this to say: "I beg first to signify my sincere thanks for the exceeding kindness which I and other delegates have met with in all the cities we have visited in this country. We have been received in your chambers of commerce, your universities, your clubs and your homes, and on every occasion we have been struck with the wonderful advancement which every branch has shown us."

"Reciprocity, if it were as easy between nations as between individuals, would undoubtedly be a just definition of fair and friendly trade, but circumstances often, almost always, create difficulties which prevent a practical realization of such a disposition. That friendly countries should be inclined to make it a system is natural, but I do not think it can exist without free trade and I would be wrong in holding out prospects which would indicate any treaty by which Brazil would bind itself to favor one country more than others."

"I believe that the exceptional advantages Canada is giving Great Britain are legislative blunders, and time will prove it. They are opposed to the broad and liberal laws which secured to England her extensive foreign trade. With this view, I cannot believe that their reciprocity (for such it is) will last for long, and it would be still more difficult to have exceptional laws favoring the many nations on the American continent."

The Monroe Doctrine.

"I have heard much of the Monroe doctrine, but surely such ideas cannot apply to trade. Let us, gentlemen, forego all pretty notions that are not based on sound reasoning and let us circumscribe our desires within a possible scope. We have seen on our territory and the United States produce machinery, and many articles which we import at present from other countries, and we have noticed that these states also import many things similar to what we buy in Europe. I must say, however, that the majority of your manufactures although in most ways fitted for our market, are too high priced, and there will be no increasing foreign trade until there is a reduction in the general scale of prices. It has been my pleasure in the intercourse with your countrymen to find that the majority agree in the belief that protection has concluded its good work; that its permanence will be effectively pernicious and that your currency requires without delay to be placed beyond the reach of politics or the manipulation of silver trusts."

A Protectionist's Plea.

Mr. Hitchings' views were for the most part seconded by Carlos Lix Klett, an extensive exporter of wool and hides from the Argentine republic, but Mauro Fernandez, former minister of finance of Costa Rica, Central America, made a strong plea in favor of protection. He declared that the question came down to a contest between the necessity of the politician and the aspiration of the scientist—free trade. The United States is right to protect her industries until she can walk alone, he exclaimed, for in some political respects she is still a babe.

The meeting hereupon resolved itself into a debate between the free traders and the protectionists of the party.

After the general discussion which followed the party went to Willow Grove, where dinner was served.

To-morrow there will be another meeting at the museum and then the delegates will disperse. Many will go to Europe, others will remain in this country to continue their studies of its industries, and some will return directly home.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For West Virginia, probably showers; southerly wind.

For western Pennsylvania and Ohio, showers are probable; light to fresh easterly winds.

Local Temperature

The temperature Saturday as observed by C. Schepfer, druggist, corner Fourteenth and Market streets, was as follows:

7 a. M.	72.3	8 a. M.	82
9 a. M.	75.1	10 a. M.	82
11 a. M.	78.0	12 m.	82
1 p. M.	78.0	2 p. M.	82
3 p. M.	78.0	4 p. M.	82
5 p. M.	78.0	6 p. M.	82
7 p. M.	78.0	8 p. M.	8